In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1.   [Currently amended]   A method for workload planning, comprising the steps of:

determining for each of a plurality of prospective customers, a projected ~~quantity~~ volume of material for processing;

determining for each customer a complexity factor for processing said material, including dismantling prototype machines, identifying work content and resulting saleable, commodity, and trash items, said complexity factor representing processing time divided by said volume; and

responsive to said projected ~~quantity~~ volume and said complexity factor, determining staffing requirements and productivity targets for a demanufacturing enterprise for processing said material.

1   2.   Canceled

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1   3.   [Original]   The method of claim 1, further comprising

2   the step of converting said volume to weight.

1   4.   [Original]   The method of claim 2, further comprising

2   the steps of converting said volume to weight, and

3   determining said complexity factor by prototyping.

1   5.   [Original]   The method of claim 4, said prototyping

2   including the step of disassembly prototyping.

1   6.   [Original]   The method of claim 5, said disassembly

2   prototyping step being applied to new material and further

3   comprising the step of accumulating historical data for

4   determining said complexity factor for previously

5   disassembled material.

1   7.   [Original]   The method of claim 2, said projecting step

2   further comprising the step of determining an expected

3   number of truckloads of said material.

1   8.   [Original]   The method of claim 5, said disassembly

2   prototyping further including the step of determining

3   salvageable and disposable content for said material of a

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4   given equipment type.

1   9.   [Original]   The method of claim 1, further comprising

2   the steps of applying said quantity projections and

3   complexity factors to workload planning model for

4   forecasting workload requirements for said processing; and

5   responsive to said workload requirements determining

6   staffing requirements and resource balancing between

7   projects.

1   10.   [Original]   The method of claim 9, further comprising

2   the steps of adjusting said workload requirements for

3   absenteeism, fatigue, breaks, and vacation pattern factors.

1   11.   [Original]   The method of claim 9, said workload

2   planning model being implemented as a computer spreadsheet.

1   12.   [Original]   The method of claim 11, further comprising

2   the step of periodically updating said workload planning

3   model based upon actual and anticipated changes in quantity

4   projections and complexity factors.

1   13.   [Currently amended]   The method of ~~claim 10~~ claim 12,

2   further comprising the step of calculating said productivity

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3   targets for a demanufacturing enterprise using said quantity

4   projections and complexity factors.

1   14.   [Currently amended]   A method for forecasting staffing

2   requirements for a demanufacturing enterprise, comprising

3   the steps of:

4   converting projected customer returns to weight,

5   multiplying said weight by a complexity factor

6   determined by disassembly prototyping to generate a

7   staff requirement for each of a plurality of customers,

8   said disassembly prototyping including dismantling

9   prototype machines, identifying work content and

10   resulting saleable, commodity, and trash items, said

11   complexity factor initially representing time for said

12   disassembly prototyping divided by said weight;

13   generating a summation of said staff requirements for

14   all customers; and

15   adjusting said staff requirements for all customers by

16   an expected absenteeism factor, fatigue factor, breaks

17   requirements, and vacation patterns to generate said

18   staffing requirements and productivity targets for said

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19   demanufacturing enterprise.

1   15. [Original] The method of claim 14, further comprising
2   the step of executing said converting, generating, and
3   adjusting steps in a spreadsheet model.

1   16-18.   Canceled

2   19. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable
3   by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
4   executable by a machine to perform method steps for workload
5   planning, said method steps comprising:

6   determining for each of a plurality of prospective
7   customers, a projected quantity of material for
8   processing;

9   determining for each customer a complexity factor for
10   processing said material, including dismantling
11   prototype machines, identifying work content and
12   resulting saleable, commodity, and trash items, said
13   complexity factor representing processing time divided
14   by said projected quantity; and

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15   responsive to said projected quantity and said

16   complexity factor, determining staffing requirements

17   and productivity targets for processing said material.

1   20. [Original]   The program storage device of claim 19,

2   said method steps further comprising the step of projecting

3   said quantity by volume.

1   21. [Original]   The program storage device of claim 19,

2   said method steps further comprising the step of converting

3   said volume to weight.

1   22. [Original]   The program storage device of claim 20,

2   said method steps further comprising the step of converting

3   said volume to weight, and determining said complexity

4   factor by prototyping.

1   23. [Original]   The program storage device of claim 22,

2   said prototyping step including the step of disassembly

3   prototyping.

1   24. [Original]   The program storage device of claim 23,

2   said disassembly prototyping step being applied to new

3   material and further comprising the step of accumulating

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4   historical data for determining said complexity factor for

5   previously disassembled material.

1   25.   [Original]   The program storage device of claim 20,

2   said projecting step further comprising the step of

3   determining an expected number of truckloads of said

4   ·material.

1   26.   [Original]   The program storage device of claim 23,

2   said disassembly prototyping further including the step of

3   determining salvageable and disposable content for said

4   material of a given equipment type.

1   27.   [Original]   The program storage device of claim 19,

2   said method steps further comprising the steps of applying

3   said quantity projections and complexity factors to workload

4   planning model for forecasting workload requirements for

5   said processing; and responsive to said workload

6   requirements determining staffing requirements and resource

7   balancing between projects.

1   28.   [Original]   The program storage device of claim 27,

2   said method steps further comprising the step of adjusting

3   said workload requirements for absenteeism, fatigue, breaks,

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4   and vacation pattern factors.

1   29.   [Original]   The program storage device of claim 27,

2   said workload planning model being implemented as a computer

3   spreadsheet.

1   30.   [Original]   The program storage device of claim 29,

2   said method steps further comprising the step of

3   periodically updating said workload planning model based

4   upon actual and anticipated changes in quantity projections

5   and complexity factors.

1   31.   [Original]   The program storage device of claim 28,

2   said method steps further comprising the step of calculating

3   said productivity targets for a demanufacturing enterprise

4   using said quantity projections and complexity factors.

1   32.   [Previously presented]   A computer program product for

2   forecasting staffing requirements for a demanufacturing

3   enterprise, comprising:

4   a computer readable medium;

5   first program instructions for converting projected

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6   customer returns to weight, multiplying said weight by

7   a complexity factor determined by disassembly

8   prototyping to generate a staff requirement for each of

9   a plurality of customers, said disassembly prototyping

10 including dismantling prototype machines, identifying

11 work content and resulting saleable, commodity, and

12 trash items, said complexity factor calculated as

13 processing time divided by said weight;

14 second program instructions for generating a summation

15 of said staff requirements for all customers; and

16 third program instructions for adjusting said staff

17 requirements for all customers by an expected

18 absenteeism factor, fatigue factor, breaks

19 requirements, and vacation patterns to generate said

20 staffing requirements and productivity targets for said

21 demanufacturing enterprise; and wherein

22 said first, second, and third program instructions are

23 recorded on said computer readable medium.

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